

The SLEGS beamline of SSRF*

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The Shanghai Laser Electron Gamma Source(SLEGS, located in BL03SSID) beamline at Shanghai Synchrotron Radiation Facility(SSRF) is a Laser Compton Scattering(LCS) gamma source, for investigating nuclear structure, which is demanded extensively in the fields of nuclear astrophysics, nuclear cluster structure, polarization physics, nuclear energy and so on. The beamline is based on the inverse Compton scattering of 10640 nm photons on 3.5 GeV electrons and a gamma source with variable energy by changing the scattering angle from 20 degree to 160 degree. γ -rays of 0.25-21.1 MeV can be extracted by the scheme consisting of interaction chamber,coarse collimator,fine collimator and attenuator. The maximum photon flux for 180 degree about 10^7 photons/s at the target at 21.7 MeV, with a beam size of 3 mm diameter. The beamline is equipped with four types of spectrometers for experiments in (γ,γ') , (γ,n) and $(\gamma,p\backslash\alpha)$. At present, Nuclear Resonance Fluorescence (NRF) spectrometer, Flat Efficiency neutron Detector (FED) spectrometer, Neutron Time-Of-Flight (TOF) spectrometer and Light Charged Particle (LCP) spectrometer methods have been developed.

Keywords: Shanghai Synchrotron Radiation Facility, SLEGS, nuclear astrophysics, nuclear structure

I. INTRODUCTION

In the past few decades, γ -photon beams are steadily developing and have optimized beam properties, which can be used for research and applications. The past and future development of photon sources can generally be divided into five generations [1]. The first generation of photon sources utilized various artificially induced γ -radioactivity of various excited nuclei, such as ^{137}Cs , ^{60}Co , $^{27}\text{Al}(\text{p},\gamma)^{28}\text{Si}$, and so on. Such sources are mainly used for detector calibration and irradiation experiments. The energy of this type of photon source is fixed.

The second generation MeV range photon source is generated by bremsstrahlung or positron annihilation. A very simple way to produce a strong photon bath with a continuous energy distribution is electron bremsstrahlung. Nowadays, the energy spectra of bremsstrahlung photons are usually calculated using different Monte Carlo simulation codes [2-4]. The main difficulty is to extract bremsstrahlung flux close to the end energy of the spectrum. The energy of the electron beam and its fluctuations play a decisive role. Therefore, careful monitoring of the energy of the electron beam is mandatory for many experiments. The bremsstrahlung γ -photon source adjusts the maximum gamma energy by adjusting the energy of the incident electron. It either provides broad-band γ -photon or low-intensity beams with some energy resolution through the method of electron energy-tagging. These sources have greatly expanded the field of photonuclear science in the past.

The Darmstadt High Intensity Photon Device (DHIPS) uses a continuous wave electron beam to generate photon beams, typically with maximum energies up to 10 MeV and currents up to $60 \mu\text{A}$ [5]. The γ ELBE facilities use superconducting continuous electron linear accelerators with a current

up to 1 mA and a maximum energy of 13 MeV to produce a bremsstrahlung beam [3]. At the Flerov Laboratory of Nuclear Reactions of the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research in Dubna, Russia, the Bremsstrahlung facility of the MT-25 microtron delivers presently an electron beam in the energy range from 10 to 25 MeV with an average electron current of up to $20 \mu\text{A}$ [6]. The recently installed S band accelerator PRISM at the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory in Livermore, CA, USA, operates with an electron energy between 15 and 25 MeV and currents up to $30 \mu\text{A}$ [7]. At the High Voltage Research Laboratory (HVRL) of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), an electron accelerator with energy up to about 3.5 MeV and currents in the $100 \mu\text{A}$ range can be used for Nuclear Resonance Fluorescence experiments [8]. The NSC KIPT in Kharkov, Ukraine operates an S-band e-linac (LUE-40) which can be used for photoactivation experiments in the energy range between about 35 and 95 MeV with the typical average electron current amounts to $6 \mu\text{A}$ [9]. At Idaho State University, USA, four e-linacs with maximum electron energies up to 40 MeV is utilized to generate the bremsstrahlung beam [10]. The maximum electron current is between 85 and $240 \mu\text{A}$.

Due to the provision of information about the energy of the generated bremsstrahlung photons by the technique of tagged photons, the photon nuclear reaction caused by bremsstrahlung photons can determine the energy-resolved reaction cross sections. The photon tagger NEPTUN at the S-DALINAC at the TU Darmstadt covers photon energies from below the particle emitting threshold to above the IVGDR region for photon scattering and total photoabsorption experiments which determine the complete dipole strength [11].

At present, the most common sources are the third generation which are the scattering of electrons in synchrotrons or storage rings using the principle of laser Compton backscattering. The High Intensity γ -Ray Source (HI γ S) facility has been the most productive example in the past [12, 13]. It is operated by the Triangle Universities Nuclear Laboratory at the Duke University, and can provide nearly mono-energetic polarized gamma ray beams with an energy range of 1 to 100 MeV, with a maximum total intensity of approximately

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⁷⁴ 3×10^{10} photons/s near 10 MeV. The maximum gamma ray
⁷⁵ energy of the laser Compton scattering gamma-ray source in
⁷⁶ the UVSOR-III storage ring is 5403 keV, and the total avail-
⁷⁷ able flux is 1×10^7 photons/s, sufficient for basic research on
⁷⁸ non-destructive three-dimensional isotopes [14]

⁷⁹ Compared to existing facilities, some new LCB facilities
⁸⁰ with further improved parameters have been announced to be
⁸¹ put into operation in the coming years. As an example, the
⁸² Variable Energy Gamma-Ray System (VEGA) at the interna-
⁸³ tional research center Extreme Light Infrastructure-Nuclear
⁸⁴ Physicas (ELI-NP) in Romania, will be briefly introduced.
⁸⁵ By selecting one of the two interacting lasers and adjusting
⁸⁶ the electron energy in the storage ring accordingly, the en-
⁸⁷ ergy range of the generated photon beam can continuously
⁸⁸ vary between 1 and 20 MeV. For Compton backscattered laser
⁸⁹ photons, a small electron beam emittance produces a small
⁹⁰ bandwidth of approximately or even less than 0.5%. The to-
⁹¹ tal photon flux will be greater than 10^{11} photons/s, and the
⁹² time-averaged spectral intensity of collimation at the maxi-
⁹³ mum position will be greater than 5×10^3 photons per second
⁹⁴ and eV [1].

⁹⁵ There are two main ways to increase beam intensities
⁹⁶ in the fourth generation gamma source. One method to
⁹⁷ achieve higher intensity is based on the multi-bunch multi-
⁹⁸ pulse concept proposed by Chris Barty and coworkers, where
⁹⁹ a laser beam collides with an electron microbeam with small
¹⁰⁰ temporal spacing [1]. Another method is a superconduct-
¹⁰¹ ing radio-frequency (SRF) and superconducting multi-turn
¹⁰² energy-recovery linac (ERL). In fact, the international ERL
¹⁰³ community has recently published a corresponding supercon-
¹⁰⁴ ducting multi-turn energy-recovery linac conceptional design
¹⁰⁵ report [15]. An SRF-ERL would generate a continuous elec-
¹⁰⁶ tron beam with extremely low emittance and very high cur-
¹⁰⁷ rent, which can generate LCB photon beams with further re-
¹⁰⁸ duced bandwidth (down to the per mille range) and higher
¹⁰⁹ intensity.

¹¹⁰ The relatively small cross-section of Compton scatter-
¹¹¹ ing within the barn range defines a limitation on the maxi-
¹¹² mum photon flux that can be obtained from laser Compton
¹¹³ backscattering devices. A few years ago, a principle was pro-
¹¹⁴ posed to overcome this limitation, which is currently known
¹¹⁵ as the fifth generation gamma source of the “Gamma Factory
¹¹⁶ at CERN” [16, 17]. This idea is to use a partially stripped
¹¹⁷ ultra-relativistic ion beam, which undergo atomic transitions
¹¹⁸ after resonant absorption of laser photons. Because the en-
¹¹⁹ ergy of the emitted photons is boosted by one factor, up to
¹²⁰ four times the square of the Lorentz factor of the particle
¹²¹ beam, this means that the energy range of the tunable photon
¹²² beam at LHC is approximately 1-400 MeV. Compared to the
¹²³ laser Compton scattering on the point-like electron, the cross-
¹²⁴ section of laser photon absorption is much larger (within the
¹²⁵ Gbarn range), thus achieving unprecedented γ beam inten-
¹²⁶ sity. Many possible applications have been discussed, such as
¹²⁷ referring to references [18, 19].

¹²⁸ The SLEGS, belonging to the third-generation gamma
¹²⁹ source, is one of the Phase II beamline at Shanghai Synchron-
¹³⁰ tron Radiation Facility (SSRF), a third generation light source
¹³¹ with a 3.5 GeV storage ring running 200 mA electron beam

¹³² current in the top-up injection mode [20–28].

¹³³ Photon-induced nuclear reactions with energies higher than
¹³⁴ the particle binding energy are capable of obtaining informa-
¹³⁵ tion on the electromagnetic decay strength of Giant Dipole
¹³⁶ Resonance (GDR) with multipole selectivity and the coupling
¹³⁷ of GDR to low-frequency collective modes [29–32]. The
¹³⁸ Pygmy Dipole Resonance(PDR) can be used to understand-
¹³⁹ ing the entire E1 response of nuclei and the nuclear symme-
¹⁴⁰ try energy in the Equation Of State (EOS) for nuclear mat-
¹⁴¹ ter [33, 34]. Magnetic dipole resonance(MDR) above neutron
¹⁴² threshold with PDR around neutron threshold constitute extra
¹⁴³ strengths of the low energy γ -ray strength function [35, 36].
¹⁴⁴ Dedicated for GDR,PDR and MDR measurement, the con-
¹⁴⁵ struction of SLEGS was completed in December 2021 and
¹⁴⁶ has been opened to users since September 2023 [37]. After
¹⁴⁷ experts of SSRF review, the first users from domestic univer-
¹⁴⁸ sities and research institutes will successively carry out ex-
¹⁴⁹ perimental research on photonuclear reactions and photon ac-
¹⁵⁰ tivation analysis(PAA). In this paper, we present a review on
¹⁵¹ the facilities and experimental methods of the SLEGS beam-
¹⁵² line.

II. THE BEAMLINE

A. The gamma source

¹⁵³
¹⁵⁴ The main SLEGS beamline components that generate
¹⁵⁵ gamma rays include the interaction chamber, the multi-
¹⁵⁶ function chamber, and the CO₂ laser [38]. Laser generates
¹⁵⁷ back-scattered gamma energy of 21.7 MeV through the multi-
¹⁵⁸ function chamber. Laser can produce gamma rays with a
¹⁵⁹ Compton edge energy range of 0.66-21.1 MeV from 20 de-
¹⁶⁰ gree to 160 degree through the interaction chamber in the
¹⁶¹ slant scattering mode. The energy of gamma is continuously
¹⁶² adjustable by changing the scattering angle between laser and
¹⁶³ electron.

¹⁶⁴ The frequency of the SLEGS gamma source is determined
¹⁶⁵ by the frequency of the laser, which is 1kHz. Therefore, the
¹⁶⁶ time distribution of laser gamma within a millisecond time
¹⁶⁷ cycle can be obtained by utilizing the time of gamma events,
¹⁶⁸ as shown in Fig. 1 (a). It is consistent with the distribution
¹⁶⁹ of laser within a clock cycle. Laser gamma events and back-
¹⁷⁰ ground gamma events can be distinguished based on time dis-
¹⁷¹ tribution. By using this method, the background events in
¹⁷² laser gamma can be deducted to obtain the energy spectrum
¹⁷³ distribution of laser gamma, as shown by the red line in Fig. 1
¹⁷⁴ (b). Using the method can reduce the measurement time of
¹⁷⁵ the experiment and improve the utilization of beam time. All
¹⁷⁶ spectrometers on the experimental station can also use this
¹⁷⁷ method to deduct background.

¹⁷⁸ To successfully conduct experiments on the station, it is
¹⁷⁹ necessary to accurately obtain the gamma spectrum distribu-
¹⁸⁰ tion of each laser angle, so measuring the gamma spectrum is
¹⁸¹ very important. Monoenergetic gamma sources of 6.13 MeV,
¹⁸² 9.17 MeV, 10.76 MeV, and 17.6 MeV were obtained by bom-
¹⁸³ barding ¹⁹F, ¹³C, ²⁷Al, and ⁷Li targets with proton sources
¹⁸⁴ from the Chinese Institute of Atomic Energy to calibrate the

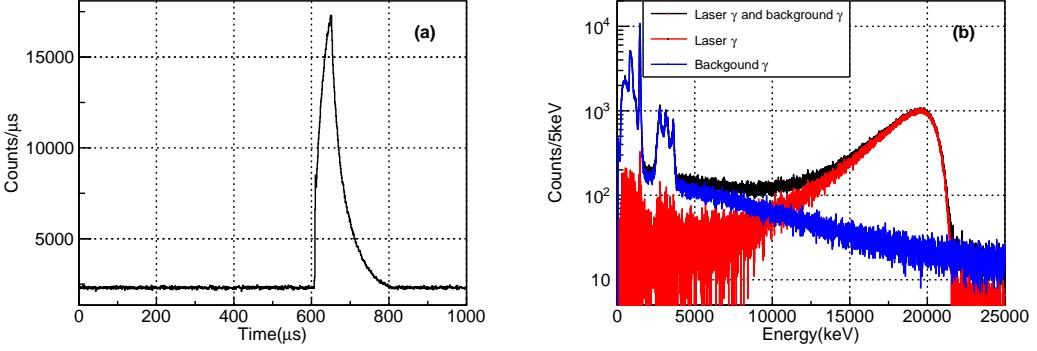


Fig. 1. (Color online) (a) The time distribution of laser gamma and background gamma within a cycle.(b) Energy spectrum distribution of laser gamma and background gamma measured using LaBr₃.

186 LaBr₃ detector,which was used for gamma spectrum [49–52].
 187 The response of single energy gamma rays in the LaBr₃ de-
 188 tector was simulated using Geant4 software [53] and com-
 189 pared with calibration data. They showed good agreement
 190 in detection efficiency and energy deposition spectrum dis-
 191 tribution. By simulating the response function of single en-
 192 ergy gamma rays in LaBr₃ detector, the response matrix of
 193 LaBr₃ detector to gamma rays can be obtained. Using the re-
 194 sponse matrix, we develop a software for inverse solving laser
 195 gamma spectroscopy based on Bayesian theory [54].

196 The black line in Fig. 2 (a) represents the gamma spectrum
 197 of LaBr₃ measured at a laser angle of 145°,while the blue line
 198 represents the result of the inverse solved gamma spectrum
 199 folded the response matrix. Their good agreement indicates
 200 that the inverse solved gamma spectrum is reliable. The re-
 201 sult of the inverse solved gamma spectrum obtained using the
 202 software is shown in Fig. 2 (b) , and its FWHM is 4.6%.

203
B. Collimators and Attenuator
 204 The coarse collimator is located 18 m away from the laser
 205 electron collision point and has ten different sizes of aper-
 206 tures, namely 0.5 mm, 8 mm, 10 mm, 20 mm and 30 mm.
 207 The fine collimator is 36 m away from the collision point,
 208 and its aperture can be continuously changed between 0 and
 209 40 mm [39]. The attenuator is composed of 8 copper blocks
 210 with different thicknesses (1×200 mm, 3×100 mm, 2×50
 211 mm, 1×25 mm and 1×15 mm) and diameters of 50 mm. The
 212 coarse collimator and fine collimator jointly adjust the energy
 213 bandwidth and beam spot size of the gamma beam, while the
 214 attenuator adjusts the beam flux to meet the requirements of
 215 nuclear physics, irradiation experiments and detector calibra-
 216 tion.

217 C. Experimental station

218 There are three types of detectors in the experimental sta-
 219 tion, namely gamma detectors, neutron detectors, and charged

220 particle detectors. The gamma detector consists of two HPGe
 221 detectors with a diameter of 80 mm and a thickness of 90 mm,
 222 two CLOVER detectors composed of four crystals with a di-
 223 ameter of 50mm and a thickness of 70 mm [40], eight LaBr₃
 224 detectors with a diameter of 76.2 mm and a thickness of 101.6
 225 mm, and one BGO detector with a diameter of 76.2 mm and
 226 a thickness of 200 mm as the beam monitor detector. The
 227 energy spectrum and flux of the beam are mainly measured
 228 using BGO and LaBr₃ detectors. There are 20 EJ-301 fast
 229 neutron detectors with a diameter of 127 mm and a thickness
 230 of 50.8 mm, 6 ³He tubes with a diameter of 25.4 mm and a
 231 effective length of 500 mm, and 20 ³He tubes with a diameter
 232 of 50.8 mm and a effective length of 500 mm. The pressure
 233 value of all ³He tubes is 2 atmospheres. Charged particle de-
 234 tectors include six Frisch-grated ionization chambers (FGIC)
 235 with a height of 72 mm and a thickness of 64 mm, four 65
 236 μ m and two 100 μ m thick single-sided silicon microstrip de-
 237 tectors, four 300 μ m and two 500 μ m double-sided silicon
 238 microstrip detectors, and six sets of sensitive area 64 mm \times
 239 64 mm cesium iodide array with a thickness of 20 mm. These
 240 charged particle detectors are combined to form a charged
 241 particle telescope system for identifying light charged parti-
 242 cles such as p, d, t, ³He and α .

243 The experimental station has a vacuum chamber with a di-
 244 ameter of 1000 mm and a height of 800 mm. Its static vac-
 245 uum can reach 10^{-6} millibars and its leakage rate is less than
 246 1×10^{-11} Pa·m³/s.

247 D. Electronics and Data-acquisition system

248 The data acquisition system of SLEGS experimental sta-
 249 tion mainly consists of two types: one is the CoMPASS wave-
 250 form digital data acquisition system [41], and the other is the
 251 MVME of Mesytec waveform digital data acquisition sys-
 252 tem [42]. According to different detector signals, each type
 253 of acquisition system has two different acquisition modes.
 254 The CoMPASS data acquisition system has Pulse Shape Dis-
 255 crimination (PSD) mode and Pulse Height Analysis (PHA)
 256 mode, while the MVME of Mesytec data acquisition system
 257 has Charge to Digital Converter (QDC) mode and Standard

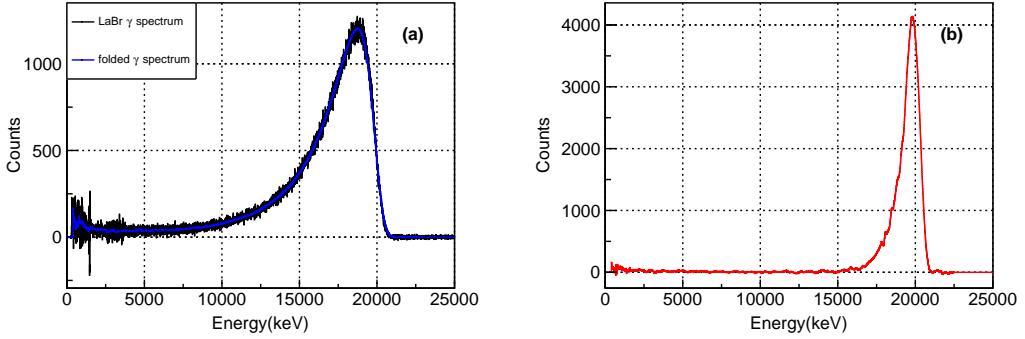


Fig. 2. (Color online) (a) Comparison between folded spectrum and experimental LaBr₃ spectrum at a laser angle of 145°. (b) The inverse solved gamma spectrum distribution at 145°.

258 Charge sensitive Preamplifier (SCP) mode. The PSD and
 259 QDC modes correspond to several hundred nanosecond pulse
 260 signals output by photomultiplier tubes and the PHA and SCP
 261 modes correspond to several to tens of microseconds of sig-
 262 nals output by pre-amplifiers or others. The CoMPASS data
 263 acquisition system consists of 6 V1725s digitizers with a sam-
 264 pling frequency of 250MHz and 8 V1730s digitizers with a
 265 sampling frequency of 500MHz. The Mesytec data acqui-
 266 sition system consists of 4 MDPP-16 digitizers and 1 MDPP-32
 267 digitizer.

268 The acquisition control interface of the data acquisition
 269 system CoMPASS mainly consists of five parts. The first part
 270 is the Run ID, where the user can set the name of the saved
 271 file and choose whether to automatically add the file's serial
 272 number. The second part is acquisition settings, which is to
 273 set the acquisition mode. There are two options: list only and
 274 wave mode, namely not saving waveform and saving wave-
 275 form mode. The acquisition time can be set, and the config-
 276 uration file can be selected. The third part is board buffers
 277 saving, which allows the user to choose whether to save the
 278 data of the board, mainly for offline data processing. The
 279 fourth part is data saving settings (List Saving). The user can
 280 choose to save raw data, unfiltered data, or filtered data. The
 281 format for saving data is generally ROOT, and the user can
 282 choose to limit the file size. The user can choose one file for
 283 one channel or one file for all channels, and choose whether
 284 to sort events. The energy format can choose ADC or scale
 285 values or both. The fifth part is spectra saving settings. The
 286 user can choose to save the spectrum at the end of the acqui-
 287 sition, or save the spectrum for a certain period of time, or not
 288 save the spectrum. The user can choose the data format for
 289 saving the spectrum, and choose to save one or more of the
 290 four spectra of Energy, PSD, Time distribution and ΔT .

291 The main parameters set in this acquisition system CoM-
 292 PASS include polarity, discrimination mode, QDC Gate,
 293 Short Gate, and Pregate in PSD mode, rise time, flat top and
 294 pole zero in PHA mode. The EJ-301 neutron detector can
 295 achieve a time resolution of 230 ps using CFD discrimina-
 296 tion, while the LaBr₃ detector can achieve a time resolution
 297 of 690 ps.

298 The control interface of the data acquisition system

299 Mesytec mainly consists of four parts. The first part is the
 300 data acquisition control interface, whose main functions are
 301 to start or stop data acquisition, set the connection mode with
 302 data acquisition electronics, select whether to record data, set
 303 the time for data acquisition, set the name of the file for data
 304 recording, and select whether the file for recording data is
 305 divided by time period or file size. The second part is the
 306 VME electronics parameter configuration interface, whose
 307 main function is to set the waveform digitizers used for ac-
 308 quisition, set their addresses to be consistent with the hard-
 309 ware settings, set the firmware mode to be consistent with
 310 the hardware settings, and set the integration and differential
 311 time for signal time filtering, shaping time, rise time, decay
 312 time, etc. The third part is the data analysis interface, whose
 313 main function is to select the data source to be analyzed, per-
 314 form necessary logical operations, and generate visualized
 315 one-dimensional or two-dimensional histograms. The fourth
 316 part is the Log interface, which mainly outputs information
 317 during data acquisition operations, such as the time when ac-
 318 quisition started and the configured electronic parameters, the
 319 time when acquisition stopped, etc. If an error occurs during
 320 the configuration process or during the acquisition process, it
 321 will be displayed in red text on this interface, and the reason
 322 for the error can be found from this information.

323 III. EXPERIMENTAL SPECTROMETERS

324 The detailed knowledge of photonuclear reaction data is
 325 great significance for various applications, such as astrophys-
 326 ical applications, medical-isotope production and radiation-
 327 shielding design, nuclear-waste transmutation, safeguards
 328 and inspection technologies, physics and technology of fiss-
 329 sion reactors (the influence of photonuclear reactions on
 330 the neutron balance) and fusion reactors (plasma diagnostics
 331 and shielding-activation calculations), analyses of absorbed
 332 dose in the human body during radiotherapy and radiation-
 333 transport calculations. According to the products detected in
 334 the photonuclear experiment, the experiment can be divided
 335 into five types.

336 **A. Nuclear Resonance Fluorescence (NRF) spectrometer**

337 The NRF spectrometer is nuclear resonance fluorescence
 338 experiments limited below neutron threshold, which only de-
 339 tect gamma rays generated in the reaction. The NRF spec-
 340 trometer mainly measures the energy and angular distribution
 341 of the de-excited gamma rays generated in nuclear reactions,
 342 using coincidence to determine the energy level states of nu-
 343 clei. The spectrometer mainly consists of 2 HPGe detectors
 344 and 2 CLOVER detectors, with a total of 8 signals output
 345 through pre-amplifiers. Therefore, the data acquisition sys-
 346 tem of the spectrometer uses Mesytec's SCP mode. Fig. 3 is
 347 the 3D model and the picture of the nuclear resonance fluores-
 348 cence spectrometer. The distance between the front surface of
 349 these detectors and the beam center can be adjusted from 10
 350 mm to 80 mm. To facilitate the measurement of polarization
 351 experiments, the position of the detectors can be rotated along
 352 the beam axis. In addition, other gamma detectors such as
 353 LaBr₃ can also be added to the NRF spectrometer to improve
 354 detection efficiency [43].

355 Nuclear resonance fluorescence can be applied to non-
 356 intrusively interrogate a region of space and measure the
 357 isotopic content of materials in that space to find any ele-
 358 ment heavier than helium. The prospect of NRF as a non-
 359 destructive analysis (NDA) technique in safety applications
 360 lies in its potential for directly quantifying specific isotopes in
 361 the target analysis. This technology involves irradiating mate-
 362 rials to intense photon beams and detecting scattered photons
 363 with isotopic specific discrete energy distributions. The inter-
 364 rogating photons with energy between 2 and 8 MeV, are the
 365 most penetrating probe and are effective when the isotopes of
 366 interest are shielded by steel or other materials.

367 The research based on NRF used two detection schemes,
 368 namely scattering and transmission methods. In both meth-
 369 ods, interrogation photons are used to induce resonance ab-
 370 sorption, while de-excited photons are detected directly in
 371 the backward scattering position or indirectly in the forward
 372 self absorption position. The investigated object is placed in
 373 the beam, and resonant photons are detected in the backward
 374 scattering position by detectors located off-beam in scattering
 375 experiments.

376 It is worth mentioning that NRF-NDA technology can be
 377 used for various other applications that require isotope identi-
 378 fication. For instance, some suggest applying this technology
 379 to cultural heritage research. The penetrability of γ will make
 380 it possible to study bulk objects, complex archaeological arti-
 381 facts, and artworks. With the increase of beam intensity, these
 382 NDA methods will be further developed.

383 **B. Flat-Efficiency Neutron Detector (FED) spectrometer**

384 The FED spectrometer is used for the experiments that ex-
 385 ceed the neutron threshold, which only detect the neutrons
 386 produced in the reaction. The FED spectrometer mainly con-
 387 sists of 26 ³He neutron tube detectors embedded in a 450 mm
 388 \times 450 mm \times 550 mm polyethylene moderator. There is a
 389 layer of 2 mm cadmium and a layer of 50 mm polyethylene

390 on the outer surface of the moderator. The neutron tubes are
 391 divided into three rings, with radii of 65 mm, 110 mm, and
 392 175 mm for each ring. The first ring has 6 neutron tubes with
 393 a diameter of 25.4 mm. The second and third rings have 8
 394 and 12 neutron tubes with a diameter of 50.8 mm, respec-
 395 tively. The signal of the neutron tube is output by the pre-
 396 amplifier, so the data acquisition system of the spectrometer
 397 uses the SCP mode of the Mesytec acquisition system. Fig. 4
 398 is the 3D model and the picture of the flat efficiency neutron
 399 spectrometer. Its detection efficiency with californium source
 400 calibration is 42.1%. This spectrometer is mainly used for
 401 measuring the photoneutron cross-section, but it cannot accu-
 402 rately determine the energy of neutrons [44].

403 Photoneutron cross-section measurement is based on the
 404 slow down, i.e., thermalization of neutrons, which are then
 405 converted into charged particles using a neutron detector. The
 406 neutron multiplicity of moderated neutrons is measured in the
 407 experiment. There are two different techniques used to esti-
 408 mate the number of measured neutrons, namely flatness effi-
 409 ciency [45] and ring-ratio techniques [46]. This spectrometer
 410 adopts a combination of flat efficiency and ring-ratio technol-
 411 ogy.

412 The outermost ring is relatively more sensitive to high-
 413 energy neutrons than the innermost ring because there is more
 414 moderate material between the outermost detector and the tar-
 415 get. Therefore, the ratio of the number of neutrons detected in
 416 the outermost ring to the number of neutrons detected in the
 417 innermost ring, known as the ring ratio, varies with the varia-
 418 tion of the average neutron energy. The goal of flat efficiency
 419 technology is to directly measure neutron multiplicity. The
 420 main design idea is to place the neutron counter in a moder-
 421 ator in such a way that for energy up to 7 MeV, the detection
 422 efficiency does not depend on the neutron kinetic energy. Not
 423 only does it require a flat efficiency over a wide energy range,
 424 but it also requires high detection efficiency for reactive neu-
 425 trons.

426 It is impossible to achieve a constant detection efficiency
 427 of the FED spectrometer with the energy of neutrons. There-
 428 fore, we first use the ring ratio method to determine the en-
 429 ergy of neutrons, and then determine the detection efficiency
 430 of the FED spectrometer based on the variation of detection
 431 efficiency with the energy of neutrons. Based on the detec-
 432 tion efficiency of the FED spectrometer, the multiplicity of
 433 neutrons is ultimately determined.

434 **C. Neutron time-of-flight (TOF) spectrometer**

435 The experiment of the neutron time of flight spectrometer
 436 is similar to the second one, but requires neutron gamma co-
 437 incidence measurements. Fig. 5 (a) is the structural design
 438 diagram of the neutron time of flight spectrometer, and its
 439 photo is shown in (b). The lanthanum bromide gamma detec-
 440 tor is located below the target in the opposite direction of the
 441 beam, 30 cm away from the target. The EJ301 fast neutron
 442 detector is located above the target in the opposite direction
 443 of the beam, at a distance of 150 cm from the target. The
 444 gamma detector provides the start time of the event, while the

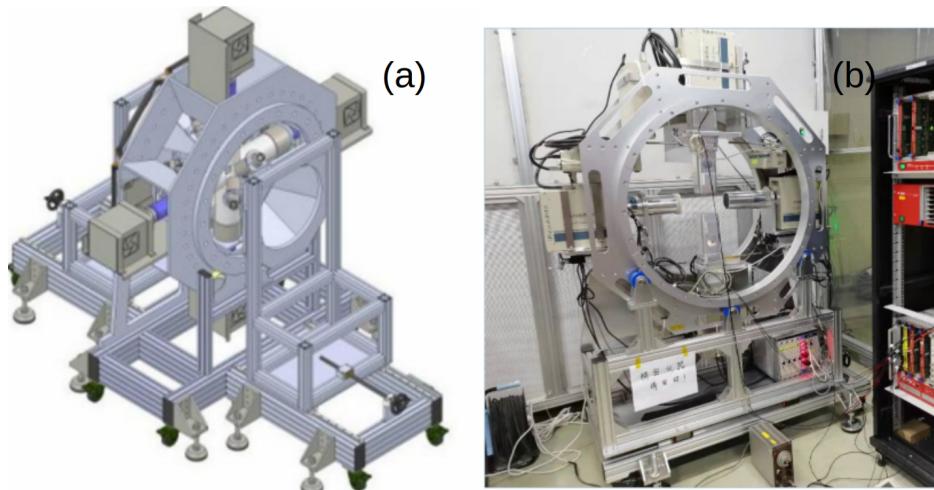


Fig. 3. (Color online) (a) 3D model of the nuclear resonance fluorescence spectrometer.(b)The nuclear resonance fluorescence spectrometer.

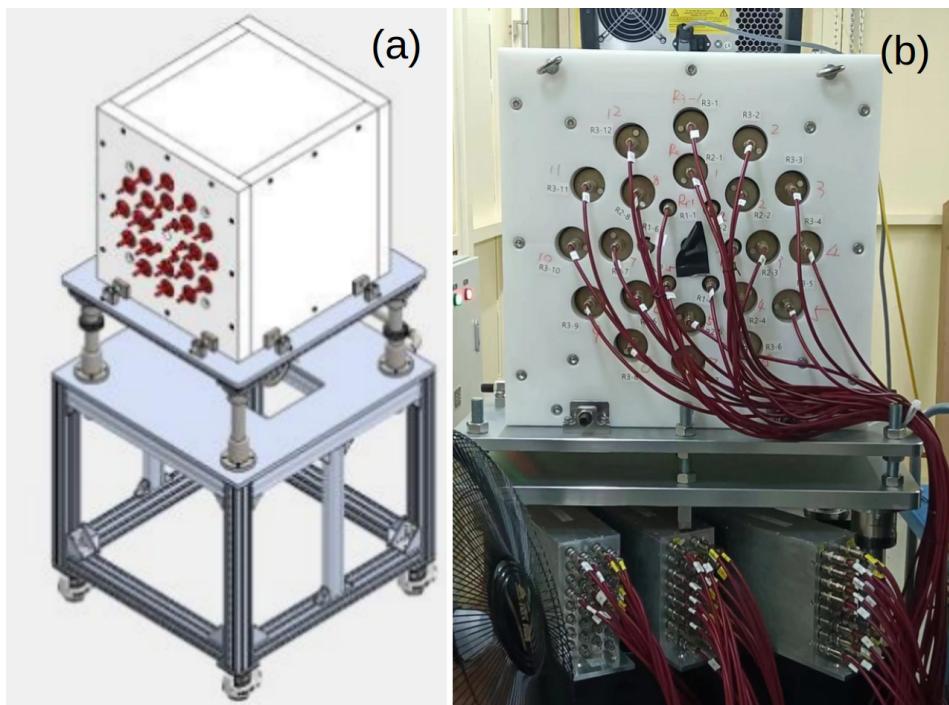


Fig. 4. (Color online) (a) 3D model of the Flat-Efficiency Neutron Detector spectrometer.(b)The Flat-Efficiency Neutron Detector spectrometer.

445 neutron detector provides the end time of the event, thus ob-
446 taining the flight time of the neutron. The energy of neutrons
447 produced in photoneutron reactions can be obtained from the
448 flight time of neutrons. The neutron time of flight spectrom-
449 eter mainly consists of 8 LaBr₃ detectors and 20 EJ301 neu-
450 tron detectors, with a total of 28 signals. These signals are
451 short pulse signals output by photomultiplier tubes. There-
452 fore, the data acquisition system of the neutron time of flight
453 spectrometer utilizes the PSD mode of the CoMPASS data ac-
454 quisition system. The data acquisition system uses the A3818
455 and V2718 fiber optic bridge mode to connect the data acqui-

456 sition hardware with computer software. Two V1730S wave-
 457 form digitizers with a sampling frequency of 500MHz are se-
 458 lected to collect the detector signal and perform analog-to-
 459 digital conversion. Two digitizers need to synchronize their
 460 clocks to achieve neutron gamma coincidence measurement.
 461 This spectrometer can achieve a time resolved half maximum
 462 width of 1 ns to 1.5 ns. Therefore, high neutron energy accu-
 463 racy measurement can be achieved.

464 This spectrometer can determine the partial energy level
465 states of certain nuclei in photonuclear reactions. The types,
466 granularity, and positions of neutron and gamma detectors in

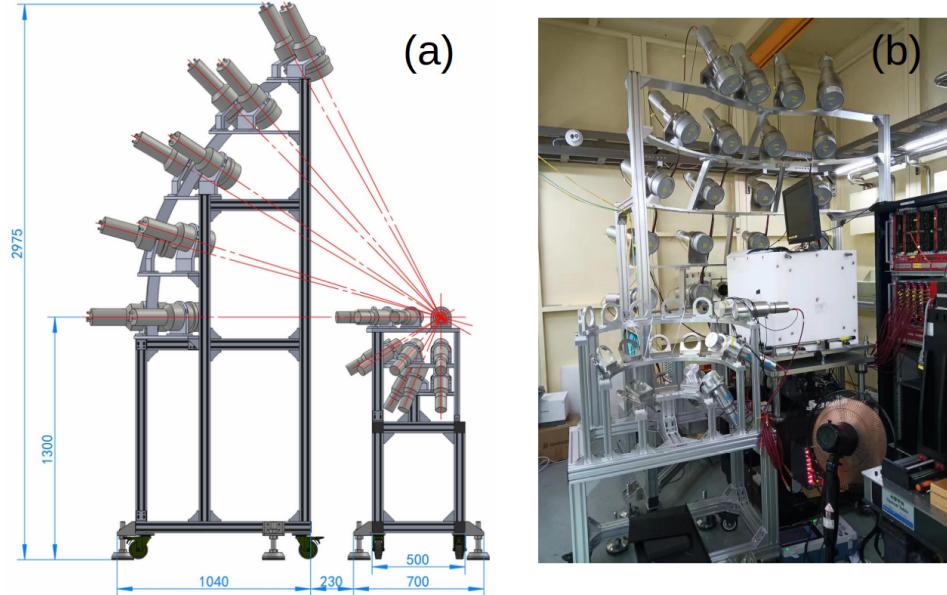


Fig. 5. (Color online) (a) Structural design diagram of the neutron time-of-flight spectrometer.(b)The neutron time-of-flight spectrometer.

467 the spectrometer can be redesigned according to experimental
 468 needs, such as polarization experiments [47]. To measure the
 469 angular distribution of neutrons, the angle of the γ photons's
 470 linearly polarized plane is tuned by changing the polarization
 471 plane of incident laser.

472 D. Light charged particle (LCP) spectrometer

473 The light charged particle spectrometer is used for the ex-
 474 periments that exceed the threshold of proton or other light
 475 charged particle, mainly detecting various light charged parti-
 476 cles. Fig. 6 (a) and (b) show the 3D model of the light charged
 477 particle spectrometer and the on-site test photo, respectively.
 478 Fig. 6 (c) is the layout diagram of the design scheme for the
 479 light charged particle spectrometer. Gamma beam incident in
 480 the positive direction along the Y-axis. The entire spectrome-
 481 ter is placed in a vacuum target chamber. The spectrometer in
 482 the figure consists of four particle telescope systems, which
 483 are placed at different angles on both sides of the beam, at
 484 a distance of 25 cm from the target. Each particle telescope
 485 system consists of a frisch-grated ionization chamber, a sili-
 486 con microstrip detector, and a nine unit cesium iodide detec-
 487 tor array. Each telescope is an $\Delta E - \Delta E - E$ light charged
 488 particle identification system that can identify particles such
 489 as proton, deuterium, tritium, ^3He , and α . The spectrometer
 490 is mainly used for nuclear physics experiments studying the
 491 structure of nuclei clusters [48].

492 E. Photon activation analysis spectrometer

493 The photon activation analysis spectrometer is designed for
 494 offline measurement of gamma activation experiments, mea-

495 suring the gamma generated by product decay. The study
 496 of medical isotopes requires the method of photon activa-
 497 tion analysis. The experimental station has designed and con-
 498 structed a photon activation analysis spectrometer consisting
 499 of a HPGe detector with a diameter of 67mm and a length
 500 of 65mm. The background counting rate of the spectrometer
 501 can reach 5 counts per second. Fig. 7 shows the background
 502 spectrum measured by the HPGe detector in a shielded cavity.

503 The research of SLEGS in the field of medical radioactive
 504 isotopes will focus on evaluation of the specific activity yields
 505 for medical radioactive isotopes produced in different pho-
 506 tonuclear reactions and detailed cross-section calculations.
 507 Design experimental research to search for new production
 508 routes for medical radioactive isotopes, such as measurement
 509 of the specific activity of medical radioactive isotopes pro-
 510 duced in photonuclear reactions, and measuring the produc-
 511 tion of medical radioactive isotopes of interest (γ, p) and (γ, n).
 512 cross section of the reaction and finding the doorway state
 513 for population of isomer in medical radioactive isotopes of
 514 interest.

515 IV. TEST EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS OF SLEGS

516 The photoneutron reaction cross-sections of targets such
 517 as ^{197}Au and ^{159}Tb have been measured using the flat ef-
 518 ficiency neutron detector spectrometer and preliminary data
 519 processing has been carried out. The measurement results are
 520 in good agreement with those of other international labora-
 521 tories. The (γ, n) reaction of ^{nat}Pb target was tested using a
 522 neutron time of flight spectrometer. Twenty EJ301 neutron
 523 detectors were used in the experiment, with a distance of 150
 524 cm from the target. Six LaBr_3 detectors were used, with a
 525 distance of 30 cm from the target. The neutron time-of-flight



Fig. 6. (Color online) (a) 3D model of the light charged particle spectrometer.(b) The photo of the light charged particle spectrometer testing site. (c)Schematic drawing of the light charged particle spectrometer.The blue block represents the screen ionization chamber, the green thin layer represents the Si detector, and the red block represents the CsI detector.

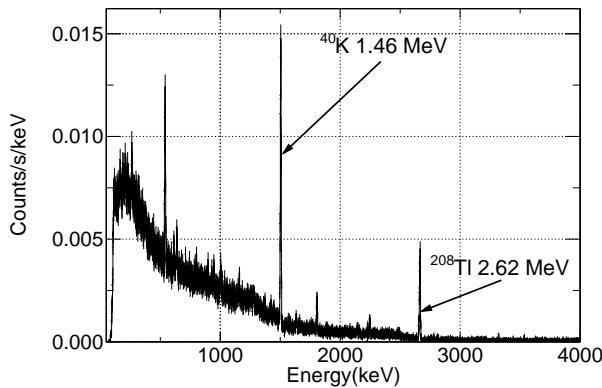


Fig. 7. The Background Spectra of HPGe Measurement.

526 spectrum measured in the experiment ranges from 40 to 200
 527 ns. The peaks of 569.6 keV, 897.3 keV of product ^{207}Pb , and
 528 803.1 keV of product ^{206}Pb were clearly distinguished in the
 529 gamma spectrum. The gamma flux measured at various laser
 530 incidence angles using the photon activation analysis spec-
 531 trometer is consistent with the flux measured using the LaBr_3
 532 detector. Experiments on the NRF spectrometer and the LCP
 533 spectrometer are also ongoing and planned.

V. CONCLUSION

534 The SLEGS beamline at SSRF is a powerful platform to in-
 535 vestigate the GDR, PDR and MDR for research in field of the
 536

537 s-process and p-process nucleosynthesis, nuclear transmuta-
 538 tion and so on. At present, photon-induced nuclear reaction
 539 data can be collected in neutron FED spectrometer and neu-
 540 tron TOF spectrometer methods. In addition, gamma NRF
 541 spectrometer and LCP spectrometer methods will be grandu-
 542 ally available to users in the future.

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